

Nation's Jubilation Over Premature Report of Truce

Wild Throngs Send Capital Into Hysteria

Government Work Forgotten as Clerks Start Victory Parades

Denial Fails to Check Celebration

President Responds to Cheers of Crowd Around White House

(Special Dispatch to The Tribune)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7.—Washington gave itself over today completely to a hysterical celebration of the "end of the war."

Premature reports of the signing of the armistice by Germany, made public in extra editions of an afternoon newspaper, soon gained such general currency that later official denials of their accuracy failed to dampen in the slightest degree the holiday spirit which swept the city.

War workers left their desks in government departments in droves, until it became impossible to transact business, and government offices closed for the day. Official automobiles became legitimate prey for girl workers. They were commandeered in all parts of the city by frenzied groups.

Delirium of Joy
Thousands of flags and horns appeared on the streets as if by magic. Flag-decked automobiles filled with cheering parties sped about the streets with horns sounding and cut-out open, until downtown streets were in indescribable chaos and the psychology which clings to the city, to call on reserves to maintain anything approximating control of traffic.

Meantime the siren installed on the roof of a central office building to call the faithful to prayers each noon was brought into play. Street car gongs, factory whistles, river steamer sirens took up the echo until pandemonium reigned in the city.

This continued with only an occasional lapse from noon until midnight. The issuance of regular editions of afternoon newspapers carrying the State Department's official denial of the armistice agreement met with only derision from hysterical crowds.

"Well, if it isn't true again, it will be in a few hours," they said as they went wildly cheering through the streets.

Navy Siren in Action
Newspaper readers were not the only ones who fell beneath the spell of mob psychology which clings to the city. The commandant of the Washington Navy Yard in the middle of the afternoon, crediting unofficial reports, ordered the yard siren into action. This was widely interpreted as confirmation of the premature reports and was the signal for fresh outbreaks of noisy celebration.

Women went about the streets with tears streaming down their cheeks. "John and Bill will be home now," they cried as they tearfully joined the celebration. Tears were not an adequate vent for some. And so soldiers were embraced on the streets, and dignified middle-aged women indulged in hysterical orgies of cheering and flag-waving which tomorrow they will be unable to explain.

The entire spectacle resembled most the curious spell which sometimes captures Billy Sunday's audiences. Reason gave way to emotion everywhere. And emotion must have its outlet in some form of extravagant expression.

President Adds to Ardor
Cheering crowds early in the afternoon massed themselves on a solid phalanx about the iron grating which surrounds the White House grounds. Calling for the President, they made a demonstration which, perhaps, never been equaled at the capital.

President Wilson came out on the portico of the White House, surveyed the crowd, and smilingly waved his handkerchief. This was again taken as confirmation of the coming of peace and the celebration orgy was renewed with fresh ardor.

Directors of government bureaus were worried to-night about the problem of holding office forces intact. A steady thousands of clerks and hundreds of dollars-a-year men and women are making plans to leave the city. This, it is pointed out, may seriously cripple the government departments while the war strain is still heavy upon them.

The general excitement was augmented late in the afternoon by the appearance over the city of a flotilla of a dozen airplanes in battle formation. Several of the aircraft did thrilling feats, coming down to within a few hundred feet of office buildings. Where the thunder of powerful engines added to the pandemonium of noise which filled the streets.

Rush to Leave City
During the evening the White House was again the congregating place for tremendous crowds. President Wilson, however, did not show himself. Secretary Lansing created a stir, however, when about 8 o'clock he was reported to have gone to the Executive offices with the supposed confirmation. Theatres and hotels were filled with celebrating crowds which recalled Cambridge or New Haven football gatherings. Everywhere there was hysterical joy and much noise, and midnight the celebration was proceeding with little abatement.

War Plants Along Delaware River Hold Celebrations

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 7.—Historic Independence Hall was the starting point for a premature peace celebration in this city and vicinity this afternoon. Nothing like the demonstration

of joy has been witnessed here in many years.

Accepting the rumor as true, Mayor Smith officially ordered a celebration in accordance with a prearranged programme. The Independence Hall bell was rung and a great crowd of happy people gathered around the building and gave vent to its feelings. Fire bells were rung, whistles blew, the schools were closed and parades were started on the principal streets.

At Cramps Shipyard, where nearly 15,000 are employed on war work, everybody quit and an enthusiastic celebration began. The great Hog Island shipyard, the officials and many employees, headed by the yard brass band and girls carrying American flags, paraded over the miles of roadway in the plant.

All over the city great excitement prevailed. At the Schuylkill and Frankford arsenals, where government munitions are made, work ceased and preparations for peace parades were underway when the denial of the report came from Washington and stopped them.

Across the Delaware River in Camden the 11,000 employees of a large manufacturing concern walked out in a body and, with the company's military band at their head, marched through the streets, thousands of citizens joining them. The 15,000 workmen at the New York Shipbuilding Corporation's plant quit work, armed through the gates and started parading to Camden, three miles away.

At Wilmington, Del., the shipyards and powder plants were practically deserted and at Chester, where there are two great shipyards, everybody quit work and made a wild display of the joy they felt.

Spirit of Victory Sweeps New England; All Boston Parades

BOSTON, Nov. 7.—Boston and many other New England cities held impromptu celebrations to-day when an unconfirmed report that Germany had signed an armistice became current. Even when it was learned that the report was not credited in official government circles parades were not abandoned and bells and whistles continued their clamor.

Extra editions of newspapers carrying the unofficial announcement flooded the streets in this city and the newsboys were pressed to supply the demand. There were many persons, however, who did not credit the early statements and kept telephone lines to newspaper offices and other sources of information busy with requests for the latest information.

Parades were quickly formed in this city, and all during the afternoon and early evening marching bands, floats, and floats of the city's citizens, many of whom were carrying flags, paraded through the streets. One of the largest processions was composed of workers from the army supply base here, who were marching to the city.

At Quincy 10,000 shipyard workers went wild with joy. The gates of the shipyards were thrown open and the men, carrying picks, shovels and other tools, marched through the streets. Schools were dismissed and thousands of persons gathered in the centre of the city to cheer and sing.

10,000 Ship Workers At Quincy Join in Huge Demonstration

QUINCY, Mass., Nov. 7.—Nearly 10,000 employees at the Fore River plant of the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corporation quit work and joined in a big demonstration to-day when unofficial reports were received that Germany had signed an armistice. Mayor Joseph P. Whiton ordered the schools closed early, so the children might participate.

Even when it was officially announced from Washington that the reports were false, the celebration persisted and the shipyard workers, armed with picks and shovels and other working tools, headed by a band, marched joyously through the streets. Mayor Whiton took his place at the head of the line and the affair was turned into a general patriotic celebration.

Springfield, Mass., Holds Official Celebration
SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Nov. 7.—Headed by state guard units, musicians and city officials, a monster parade in celebration of the reported signing of the armistice was held here to-day under the auspices of the Public Safety Committee. Mayor F. E. Stacy called upon the whole city to participate. Whistles were blown and bells rung on the occasion of the unofficial report. Thousands joined in the parade with flags and banners.

Connecticut Celebrates Peace Report, but in Unconvinced Manner

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Nov. 7.—There was an uproar for a short time here this afternoon after reports had spread that the war was at an end. In other cities of Connecticut there were short-lived celebrations, such as have been held frequently on unconfirmed reports of events in the war area.

Worcester (Mass.) Pays No Attention to Denials

WORCESTER, Mass., Nov. 7.—Worcester celebrated on the strength of the unofficial report that Germany had signed an armistice to-day. Factory whistles blew and throngs speedily filled the streets and cheered lustily as automobile horns tooted and every instrument that could make a noise was put into operation. Announcements that official confirmation was lacking had no effect.

Stock Exchange and City Council Closed In Pittsburgh Fete

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 7.—Hundreds of factory whistles in Pittsburgh's industrial plants shrieked and church bells were rung this afternoon following publication of unofficial reports that an armistice had been signed with Germany.

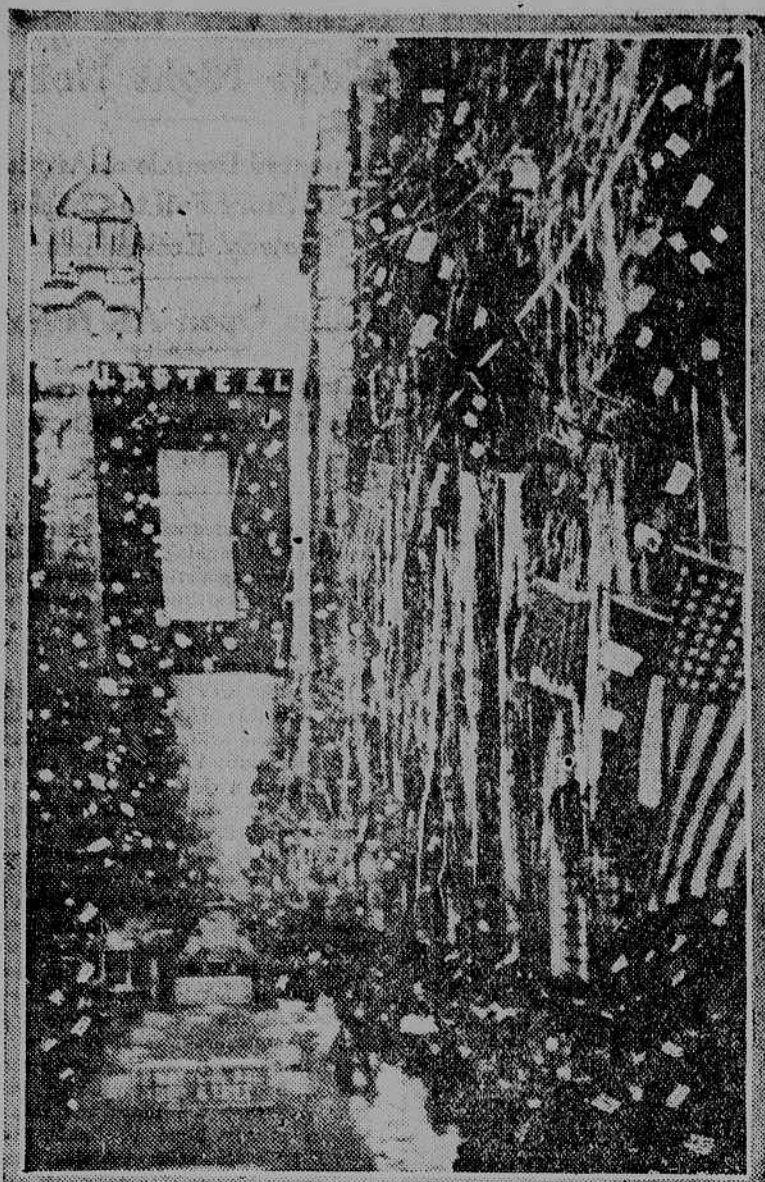
The Stock Exchange closed and the City Council, which was in session, adjourned until receipt of official confirmation of Associated Press dispatches from Washington of Secretary Lansing's denial, after which the session was resumed.

Great crowds assembled before bulletin boards this afternoon blocking traffic in downtown streets. News-papers offices were besieged with telephone calls and telephone companies' lines were demoralized for more than two hours.

Impromptu Parades Held in Youngstown

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio, Nov. 7.—When whistles and bells announced the press report of peace here, impromptu parades were organized with improvised bands, wide streams of adding-machine tape were thrown from windows of office buildings and flags were unfurled everywhere.

"SCRAPS OF PAPER"



New York's financial district celebrated the report that the armistice had been signed with as much enthusiasm as it contributed its millions to the conduct of the war. The photograph shows a scene on Broadway in front of the United States Steel Corporation office, with the Singer Building in the distance.

City, Wild With Joy, Sets Adrift Millions of "Scraps of Paper"

Workers, Released for Holiday When Report of Armistice Comes, Parade the Streets Deliriously—Fifth Avenue, Hopeless for Traffic, Is Scene of Noisy Parades

The war began with "a scrap of paper." Yesterday millions of scraps of paper were thrown from the roofs of New York office buildings, to be carried upward by the air currents and hover above the city, flashing in the afternoon sunshine like a flock of silver birds. When they settled the streets were littered with torn paper several inches deep. All the trash baskets in the city seem to have been emptied to make these munitions of peace. News-papers and telephone directories torn into small bits, blank sheets left over from Tuesday's election, stenographers' pads and letters were all thrown to the winds.

It was a holiday for everybody but members of the Street Cleaning Department. They, however, bent cheerfully to the task of shovelling up the debris. "Doing our bit," grinned one of the "white wings" at the Municipal Building, rescuing a torn flag from the gutter and pinning it in his hat. "If our soldiers can clean up the whole German army, it'd be a pity if we couldn't stand cleaning up a little for the celebration."

Shipyard Men Rejoice
The tumult and the shouting took a fresh impetus shortly after 2 o'clock, when a ferryboat from the Standard Shipbuilding Company at Shooter's Island made fast to the Battery landing and disgorged a thousand shipbuilders, who got a half holiday because of the news of the German surrender. The gang had not stopped to wash up, but raced to the subway and "L" station, shouting and deriding the Kaiser.

"We drove the last rivet into his tough old hide at noon to-day," roared a giant from the shipyards. "Yes, and we've got a lot more red-hot ones ready if the pig goes again," was the contribution of a brawny dwarf, who professed to be boss of a tool gang.

Middle West Joins Nation in Premature Peace Celebration
CHICAGO, Nov. 7.—Chicago and the Middle West turned loose an unrestrained but premature celebration of peace to-day that entailed injury to a number of persons and disruption of industry before official denials could stem the tide.

The carnival of noise and ribaldry was the result of a false newspaper dispatch which The Associated Press did not carry, but which was spread throughout the country before official denials could stem the tide.

On receipt of the unfounded report bells and whistles started a flood of noise that continued for hours while workmen in factories and mills of this

region took an airing along the sea wall, cheering every uniformed man that came by, one of them being so bold as to say that she always loved a sailor or a soldier.

"Prove it with a kiss, if you mean it, kid!" cried an infantryman who heard the girl's remark.

"Put your hands behind your back and the kiss is yours," replied the girl, who instantly made good her promise. It was more than the soldier bargained for, as three more smacks upon his blushing cheeks were planted in quick succession by the three companions of the patriotic girl.

A middle-aged man, who said he did not believe in prohibition, waltzed by himself along the Battery wall, his arms and neck entangled in tickle tape. The Chicago Opera Company was at rehearsal when a Belgian tenor rushed in crying: "Stop! Stop! Peace has been declared!" Director Campanini ordered "The Star-Spangled Banner" and the anthems of the Allies sung and then the rehearsal was adjourned and the singers went out into the street to celebrate.

Ohio Holds Wild Revel Over Report Of War's Conclusion
COLUMBUS, Ohio, Nov. 7.—All Ohio went wild to-day over the unconfirmed report that Germany had signed the armistice terms. Street parades were held in many cities, factories were closed and business generally was suspended, regardless of the fact that Secretary Lansing at 2:15 o'clock (Eastern time) denied an armistice with Germany had been signed.

In Columbus large crowds surrounded the State House and were addressed by Governor Cox from the portico of that building. Offices and factories generally dismissed their employees. Parades were numerous and flags were waved everywhere. Every one crowded to the streets. As a precautionary measure, city police officers ordered all saloons closed until to-morrow morning.

The Associated Press did not circulate the unconfirmed rumors in Ohio.

Three Celebrants Shot in Yonkers

(Special Dispatch to The Tribune)

YONKERS, N. Y., Nov. 7.—Three men were shot in a celebration of the peace report here to-night by an unidentified man who escaped.

Two of the victims, Robert Buchanan, 21 Cliff Street, and George Halg, 17 Willow Place, are dying in St. John's Hospital.

The third, William Buchanan, brother to Robert, was wounded in the arm and will recover. The assailant is believed to be deceased.

Arthur Helwig, 581 West Seventeenth St., West New York, N. J., was shot and killed last night following an argument on the authenticity of the reported armistice. A crowd surrounded Arthur Fritch, of 400 Malone Street, West Hoboken, and beat him badly. He was rescued by the police and locked up.

and other cities threw down their tools, cheered and indulged in schoolboy pranks. The City Hall, stores, offices and munitions plants closed for a holiday.

Police reserves were rushed downtown and were forced to use their clubs to control the crowds of horn-blowing, bell-ringing celebrators, and several were injured.

In Minnesota two celebrators were injured by the discharge of a cannon. The Chicago Opera Company was at rehearsal when a Belgian tenor rushed in crying: "Stop! Stop! Peace has been declared!" Director Campanini ordered "The Star-Spangled Banner" and the anthems of the Allies sung and then the rehearsal was adjourned and the singers went out into the street to celebrate.

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Kentucky's Celebration Of Report of Peace Borders on Hysterical

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Nov. 7.—Reports ever brokers' wires and through news agencies other than The Associated Press that the Germans had signed armistice terms thrilled Kentucky to-day and resulted in demonstrations that bordered on the hysterical.

In Louisville church bells rang, factory whistles were blown and news-paper offices were besieged with anxious inquiries for confirmation of the report, while in the streets and in department stores, the tension broken, women sobbed in each other's arms. As the report spread impromptu parades of joyful men, women and children formed in the streets with horns and other noise-making devices.

News from other important Kentucky points indicated similar conditions.

Governor Edge Orders New Jersey Capitol Decked With Bunting

TRENTON, N. J., Nov. 7.—As soon as the unconfirmed reports of cessation of hostilities with Germany reached the State House there was great cheering and the young women and men clerks formed a chorus in the Assembly chamber and spent an hour singing patriotic songs. Governor Edge ordered the Capitol decorated with flags and bunting. The news was received in Trenton with a great blowing of whistles and ringing of church bells.

Toledo Decorates All Public Buildings

TOLEDO, Nov. 7.—Unconfirmed reports of peace here were heralded by factory whistles and shrieks of stonemason crews in the harbor. Public buildings were decorated hurriedly with American, French, British and Italian colors.

U. S. Will Question Huns' Good Faith, Lansing Declares

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7.—Secretary Lansing to-day made public a message to the German government through the Swiss Minister protesting against the reported intention of German authorities in Belgium to destroy coal mines on evacuation.

If the acts contemplated are carried out, the message says, it will confirm "the belief that the solemn assurances of the German government are not given in good faith."

The note addressed to the Swiss Minister follows: "I have the honor to request that you will bring the following to the attention of the German government: In its note of October 20 the German government announced that 'the German troops are under the strictest instructions to spare private property and to exercise care for the population to the best of their ability.'"

Information has now reached the government of the United States to the effect that the German authorities in Belgium have given notice to the coal mining companies that all men and animals should be brought out of the pits, that all raw materials in the possession of the companies should be delivered to the Germans and that the mines will be destroyed at once.

Acts so wanton and malicious, involving as they do the destruction of a vital necessity to the civilian population of Belgium, and the consequent suffering and loss of human life which will follow, cannot fail to impress the government and the people of the United States as wilfully cruel and inhuman.

If these acts, in flagrant violation of the declaration of October 20, are perpetrated it will confirm the belief that the solemn assurances of the German government are not given in good faith.

In the circumstances the government of the United States, to which the declaration of October 20 was made, enters an emphatic protest against the measures contemplated by the German authorities, for whose conduct the government of Germany is wholly responsible.

Oppressed Nationalities Ask For U. S. Troops as Police

Representatives of twelve oppressed nationalities of Central Europe set forth their aims yesterday at a conference in the Hotel Plaza and expressed a wish that United States troops be used as international police during reconstruction. Then they paraded down Fifth Avenue to Washington Square.

Their immediate purpose, they said, is to lay their cases before the United States and start solving their national problems. They want American troops on guard in disputed territories, particularly where a plebiscite is to be conducted.

Dr. F. G. Masaryk, president of the Czech-Slovak National Council, presided.

Our 31st Birthday

Comes at a time when the very air seems pregnant with momentous events and we feel, more than ever before, our great responsibility to that vast public which has made possible such business success as we have been fortunate enough to have achieved.

We might, of course, talk at great length upon the aims and objects of our business policy, also of what we have accomplished and still hope to accomplish, but it seems to us that while these things mean much indeed to us, the actual doing is all that interests you.

This much we feel impelled to say, however—that Service, Quality and Dependability are now and will continue to be the great outstanding characteristics of Brill Stores and of Brill Merchandise.

And with these few words, we arrive at the definite object of this announcement and of the concrete manner in which it is our intention to express by deed, rather than mere words, the thankfulness we feel at this particular time. We offer, therefore, as

A Present to You Overcoats and Suits

By the Great House of Kuppenheimer

At \$31.00

The Overcoats Were Priced up to \$55.00 The Suits Were Priced up to \$45.00

They are offered at \$31.00 for the period of our Birthday Party only. Any that remain in our stock will immediately thereafter go back to their original selling prices.

The fact that most of them are Kuppenheimer 1918-1919 models and fabrics tells sufficiently well what they are and indicates quite clearly that they offer you the very best and most desirable clothing obtainable anywhere.

We wish, however, to make quite clear that all Kuppenheimer Overcoats up to \$55 are not included, nor are all Kuppenheimer Suits up to \$45, but that a choice selection from our stocks has been made and a price of \$31 put on the overcoats and suits so selected. One more thing that we consider pertinent to remark is that a limited few Brill Suits and Overcoats of similar former prices have also been included.

Similar Birthday Presents in Haberdashery, Hats and Boys' Clothing The Celebration Commences This Morning at All Brill Stores.

Brill Brothers

The Kuppenheimer House in New York

44 East 14th Street Broadway at 49th Street 1456 Broadway at 42d St. 47 Cortlandt Street 125th Street at 3d Ave. 279 Broadway 2 Flatbush Avenue, at Fulton Street, Brooklyn 14th St., 1456 Broadway, 125th St. and Brooklyn Open To-morrow Evening

SALE Our Entire Stock of USED CLOSED CARS

Coles and Other Makes on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 8th and 9th.

RUSSELL L. ENGS, Inc. 12 Central Park West. Telephone Col. 516.

All these cars have been repainted and overhauled.

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